

ILLUSTRATED SPORTING THEATRICAL NEWS

VOL. V.—No. 212]

SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1866.

PRICE TWOPENCE



THE OXFORD CREW.

[illegible]

Racing Intelligence.

Steeplechasing.

APRIL.			MAY.		
Newmarket Craven.	2	Catterick Bridge	5	Newmarket, 1st Sep.	16
Durham	2	Abercromby	5	Chilwell	17
Donkirk & W.	3	Donkirk & W.	3	Donkirk & W.	3
Donkirk & W.	3	Donkirk & W.	3	Donkirk & W.	3
Beverly Spring	2	Chelmsford Spring	10	Browley	20
Paris Spring	3	Chelmsford Spring	10	Browley	20
Knights	3	Chelmsford Spring	10	Browley	20
Trilco	4	Chelmsford Spring	10	Browley	20
Curragh	1	Harpenden	10	Corwall County	22
Asot Spring	1	York Spring	10	Wyo	23
Salisbury	3	Kingdom Summer	15	Nonchance	23
Bath	1	Uxbridge	21	Paris Summer	23
Howth and Baldyle	8	Uxbridge	21	Asot Summer	23
JUNE.			JULY.		
Windsor	5	Stockbridge	14	Hungerford	25
Newton	6	Chelmsford	19	Newcastle-on-Tyne	29
Hampden	7	Liverpool Summer	19	Curragh	29
Chilham	12	Beverly	20	Worcester	29
Bibury Club	13	Liswich	21		
AUGUST.			SEPTEMBER.		
Newmarket July.	3	N. down July	17	Spilsby	24
Carlisle	3	Donkirk Corp	18	Cambridge	24
Carlton	4	S. amford	19	Southampton	24
Donkirk	4	Donkirk	19	Wormwood	24
Abingdon	10	Ratcliffe	23	Hartington	26
Reading	12	Windsor	24	Goodwood	31
Brighton	7	Oxford	24	Lichfield	27
Brighton Club	9	Hastings	25	Tunbridge	28
Leaves	10	York August	21	Worcester	29
Wolverhampton	11	Dover	23	Baden Baden	31
Stockton	15				
OCTOBER.			NOVEMBER.		
Warwick September	4	Canterbury	18	Paris Autumn	23
Curragh	4	Richmond	18	Windsor	23
Leicester	11	Donkirk	19	Wormwood	24
Donkirk	11	Donkirk	19	Wormwood	24
Donkirk	11	Donkirk	19	Wormwood	24
Bedford	2	Newmarket 2nd Oct.	8	Newmarket Houghton	32
Northampton	2	Curragh	16	Worcester	32
Lincoln	1	Shrewsbury	11	Leamington Hunt	13
Liverpool	1				

ROTHNEY STEEPCHASE.—The committee of these annual steeplechases have deemed it prudent to postpone their meeting from the 26th April to the 10th May, owing to the Grand National and other meetings which will be held in the same month. An advertisement in another column detailing particulars of the events. The Right Hon. Lord Bunsford, Henry Parker, Esq., and Wm. Forster, Junr., Esq., have accepted the office of stewards, and in addition to the Hunt Cup and the Conquest of the Hunt Cup, there are two pony races, which will, no doubt, be very attractive; and, according to the present prospect of events, there is no fear but that this popular meeting will be productive of excellent sport.

AQUATICS.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

		MORNING.		AFTERNOON.	
SATURDAY, March 31	13 min past 2	2	36 min past 2	2	
SUNDAY, April 1	53 min past 2	3	8 min past 3	2	
MONDAY	24 min past 2	2	40 min past 3	3	
TUESDAY	55 min past 2	3	10 min past 4	4	
WEDNESDAY	26 min past 2	4	42 min past 4	5	
THURSDAY	57 min past 2	5	13 min past 5	5	
FRIDAY	30 min past 2	4	47 min past 5	6	

BILLIARDS.

OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE BILLIARD MATCHES, AT ST. JAMES'S HALL.

On Saturday the usual games at billiards, the four-handed and the single matches, took place at the minor hall, St. James's-hall, when, as usual, a great crowd of the lovers of the game assembled. The players for Oxford in the double game were Mr. W. Russell (Christ Church College) and Mr. W. Rodgers (Exeter College), while C. Crampton (Jesus College) and T. W. Wickham (Magdalene College) represented the interests of Cambridge. Both games were announced to be played on a new table made by Messrs. Cox and Yeman, and the game was carefully marked and called by Oxford Jonathan. The first game (the four-handed match) was commenced shortly after three p.m., and the single match, played by Messrs. Wickham and Rodgers, commenced at eight p.m. precisely. That the matches created the greatest interest was evident from the numbers that were present, and the utmost order prevailed. The following is the result of both games:—

DOUBLE MATCH.—MESSRS. WICKHAM AND CRAMPTON FOR CAMBRIDGE V. MESSRS. RUSSELL AND RODGERS FOR OXFORD.—The play commenced a few minutes after three o'clock, the time appointed, Mr. Wickham giving a miss into baulk. Small scores on both sides was the order of the play for some time, all four of the competitors being most decidedly nervous. Oxford Jonathan called the game 28 all, and very shortly 25 all. Shortly afterwards Oxford, by some good and safe play on the part of Rodgers, who made 27 off a break and kept a fine double baulk, the game was called—Oxford 87, Cambridge 38. 6 to 4 now went begging without a response, which odds were increased to 2 to 1, when Oxford was called the first hundred to the Light Blue's 47, and the break was continued until the Dark Blue had reached 107. Small and unimportant breaks brought Cambridge

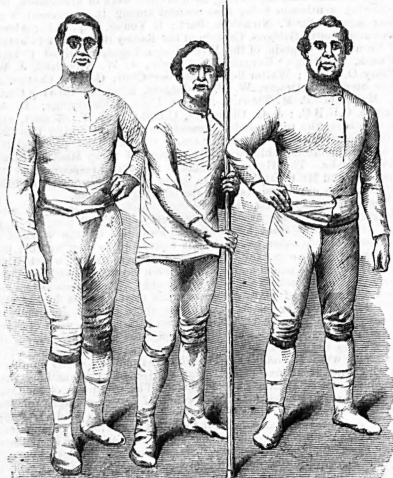


A. WRIGHT, of Longtown.

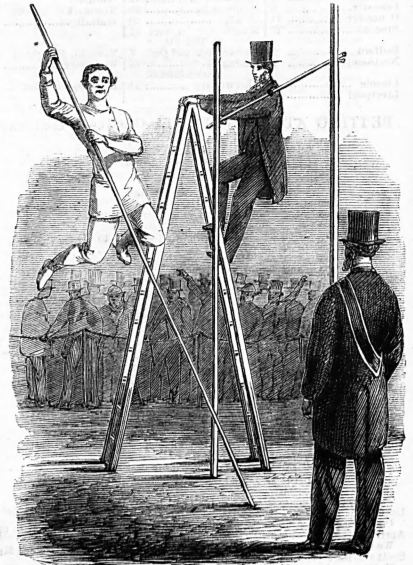
up to 64, Oxford at the time being 116. When Cambridge had reached their first hundred Oxford were leading by 37 points. The latter now made 15, while Cambridge scored 7, but letting in Crampton, who by this time was playing with great steadiness, he increased their score (the Cambridge) by a fine break of 41 to 172, having passed them, and, notwithstanding the ovation he received, when the game was called 160 all, he still played with the coolness of a veteran. The next time Jonathan called the game it was—Cambridge 172, Oxford 162. Small breaks brought the game—Cambridge 200, Oxford 187. The latter then made 6 to their opponents' 4. Cambridge now commenced to take a decided lead, Crampton making some good breaks of 19, 29, and 14, raising their (Cambridge) score to 306 to Oxford's 237. The Cantabs from this time went steadily ahead, and the following were the numbers called out:—Cambridge 316, Oxford 246; Cambridge 324, Oxford 251; Oxford 256, Cambridge 324. The latter's score was now increased 10, by a well-played break by Crampton, and giving a judicious miss, the game was—Cambridge 334, Oxford 257. Small breaks and safe play made the game—Cambridge 385, Oxford 290, when Wickham made a break of 27, running the game up to 412, Oxford only being 292. When Oxford had reached 304 Cambridge were still 412, and caution being the order of the day, Oxford reached 311 to the Cantabs' 416. More small scores, until Crampton got hold of the ball and made 28 off, the score being—Cambridge 448, Oxford 311. The Oxford representative, Rodgers, now got in and added 11 to his account, the game being called—Oxford 322, Cambridge 448. Both sides now played cautiously, but Wickham, having been left a break by Rodgers, made 19 off, the game being then called—Cambridge 478, Oxford 324. Small breaks were made on both

sides, until Crampton commenced the winning break by making 6, and never put down his cue until Oxford Jonathan called the game—Cambridge 500, Oxford 330—amidst the shouts, cheers, and congratulations of the Light Blue division, after a rather slow game which occupied 2 hours 40 minutes.

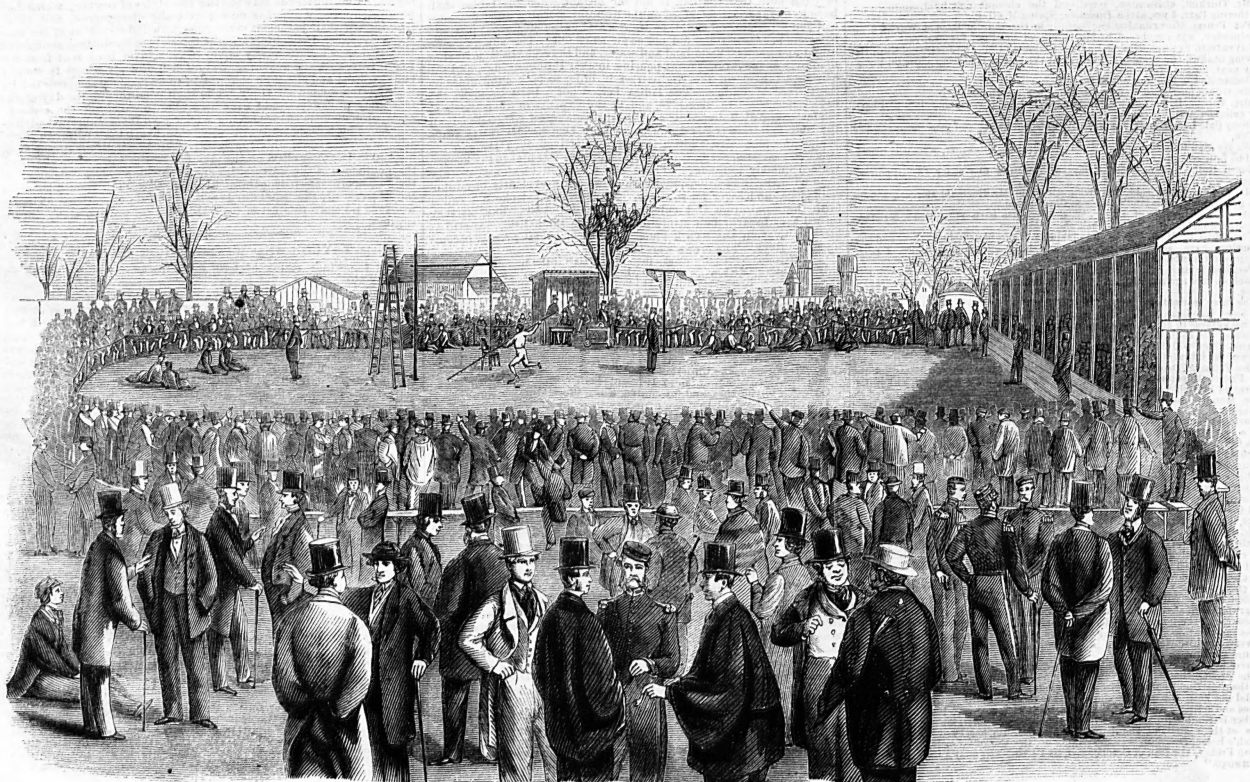
THE SINGLE MATCH.—MESSRS. WICKHAM (FOR CAMBRIDGE) AND RODGERS (FOR OXFORD).—Wickham gave a miss in baulk, Rodgers following suit, but soon made his game into 7. Rodgers made 2; Wickham ran a cue. The game was called—Rodgers 20, Wickham 9; soon after which the latter made his game 19 to Rodgers' 20, and left off. Wickham afterwards made his game 24 to 31. Rodgers made 6. Game: Oxford 37, Cambridge 24. Rodgers made 2, and left off. Wickham did not score. Rodgers made 8, and just missed a double baulk. Wickham ran his game up to 32 and gave a miss. Mutual misses and cautious play. Rodgers opened a break by a cannon, followed by a five stroke, then leaving off. Small scores and safe play brought the game—55 for Oxford, 49 for Cambridge. Caution was now the order of the day, and small breaks made the game—Cambridge 49, Oxford 68. Wickham made 7 and broke down at a losing red hazard. Rodgers, by flukes and good play, increased his game to 83, making 14 off; Oxford 73. Betting: 2 to 1 laid on Cambridge freely. Small scores, until the game was—Oxford 83, Cambridge 90. Rodgers, after some small scores, made a good double baulk, the game being—Oxford 101, to Cambridge's 93. Cautious play followed, until Cambridge had passed their first hundred, when the game was—Wickham 101, Oxford 103. More small breaks brought the game 114 all, but no betting took place. No great breaks were made for some time; all the easy strokes were scored, and then they played for position. The game was closely contested, as, after a well-played break by Rodgers, there was only nine difference. More caution until the game was 130 all. Small scores but fine play was exhibited on both sides, when the game was—Oxford 151, Cambridge 144. Rodgers added 11 to his



Armstrong, Masgrove, and Scott, celebrated Pole-leapers.



Cumberland and Westmoreland Pole-leaping.



REMINISCENCES OF THE PAST.—Horsley Wood House on Gosford

game, and gave a miss into bulk. More small scores and flukes brought the second hundred to a conclusion, the game standing: Oxford 200, Cambridge 185, and, going on, Rodgers made the game 207, Cambridge 189. No long break was made, as both played carefully, and when Cambridge reached the second hundred the game was—Cambridge 200, Oxford 216. A few small breaks made the game—Wickham (who was playing with bad luck) 223, Rodgers 223. The former afterwards making a double baulk, a very close, although a slow game was now played, they passing each other at intervals. The anxiety felt by the friends of the men was plainly shown from the almost total silence of the "dark and light blue." Game: Cambridge 259, Oxford 232. Mr. Duffon now laid £30 to £20 on Cambridge. More short scores were made until the Oxford representative made "43 off," the game then being—Wickham 288, Rodgers 275. At the third hundred the game was—Rodgers 301, Wickham 289. The latter then made 3, Rodgers 2. Wickham went past 300, and his opponent by a break of 21, the game being—Cambridge 310, Oxford 304. Both again played cautiously, and small scores were the result, until the game was 334 all; Rodgers still continuing his break, and left off at 341, Cambridge 336. Wickham made 7, and after some cautious play the game was called 344 all. Wickham next made 18, running his game up to 362; Rodgers made 9. This was followed by Rodgers, again in front, the game being—Oxford 375, Cambridge 367. Dark Blue still kept pegging away, and playing very luckily made his score 381, Cambridge 369. Small scores followed, Oxford leading by



Blair, of Allandale, a great Wrestler.



John Smith, the celebrated Westmoreland Wrestler.

10. At the fourth hundred, which was first scored to Oxford, they were called 401, and Rodgers finished his break at 405 to Wickham's 389. The latter then made two, and left off. Cambridge, who was playing with bad luck, was very cautious until Wickham ran into his fourth hundred at 402, to Rodgers's 419. The game, after some slow play, was called—Rodgers 429, Wickham 405. Both missed some easy scores, and became evidently somewhat nervous. When the next ovation was made for good play, the game stood—Oxford 453, Cambridge 427. Wickham was now playing an up-hill game—Oxford 469, Cambridge 436. Unimportant breaks were followed by some very good luck on the part of Rodgers, who, by a break of 28, ran his game up to 497, and Wickham giving a miss, made the Oxford game into 498. The game was now all over but shouting, and Oxford making a cannon, the game was called—Oxford 500 to 436, the winner receiving a wonderful ovation. The game commenced a few minutes after eight p.m., and was concluded at 10-40 p.m.

The Prince of Wales has accepted an invitation to be present on Easter Monday next at the Brighton Volunteer Review. Early on Monday morning the body of a young man was found on the railway near Mortlake, with the head severed from the trunk. The body was lying in a slight hollow by the side of the uprails.

HUNTING.

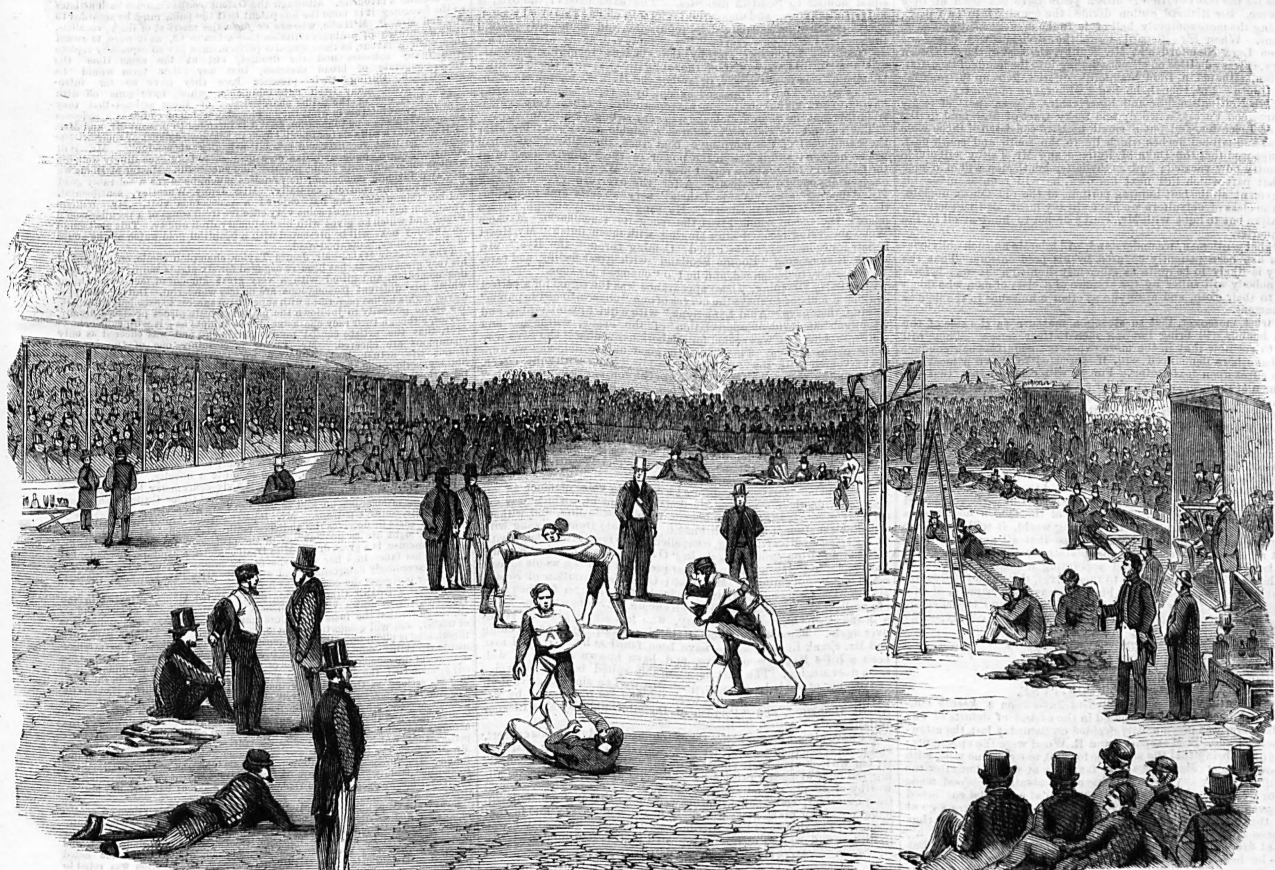
THE QUORN HOUNDS.

In the sporting papers of the last two or three weeks an advertisement has appeared which cannot fail to affect with a certain degree of melancholy every person who takes an interest in the most popular of British field sports, however slight his practical acquaintance with the subject. The Quorn hounds are for sale. Now it is perfectly true that packs of hounds, and within the pale of sporting life celebrated packs of hounds, are frequently changing hands and names without any peculiar importance being attached to the transaction. But the Quorn have long held a position in the hunting world which gives them, as it were, a public and a representative character. Men who never heard the name of any other pack have heard of the Quorn. Men totally ignorant of hunting quarters in general have heard of Melton. Could a genuine cockney be discovered at the present day, even he would be aware that a mysterious sanctity attached to the fields of Leicestershire. Thus when any casual reader perceives in his *Bell's Life* that these hounds are to be sold, he might be pardoned for believing that the downfall of fox-hunting was at hand.

The reputation of the Quorn hounds first began to be conspicuous about a hundred years ago. And the first master whose name is iden-



J. Strong, of Unthank, the renowned Wrestler.



REMINISCENCES OF THE PAST.—Hornsey Wood: Cumberland and Westmoreland Wrestling. (See Descriptive Matter.)

FAREWELL SUPPER TO MR. H. HEMMINGS, CLOWN.—This esteemed gentleman, who had so successfully filled the part of clown during the late pantomimes, entertained a few evenings ago by several of his brother professionals, a few friends to a *recherché* supper, which was undertaken and well up with very good effect by Mr. Hemmings, the proprietor of the theatre in Gallowgate. The clown being removed, Mr. Woolton was voted to presidency, and who, during the evening, was facetiously assisted by Mr. Revere. Loyalty in Englishmen is never forgotten, the Queen and the

HABBIT COURSEING.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

A match for £20, the best of 21 courses, took place last Saturday between Mr. Ontraine's Lass and Mr. Onda's Fly Catcher, the general law being observed on both sides. The contest was an exceedingly good one, and creditable to the merits of the contending dogs. The match progressed well from the first, and afforded interest and opportunity to invest to a great many of the upholders of courseing. Fly Catcher in the long run despatched the necessary 14 rabbits and won the match, being 10 points in advance of the Lass, who killed the other nine pussies very finely.

ENGLAND'S SPORTS AND PASTIMES IN THE
OLDEN TIME.

The amusements in which our forefathers indulged were, for the most part, more cruel than refined. Cock-fighting, bull-baiting, dog-fighting, and similar pleasant (?) sports were pursued with a zeal and an earnestness proportionate to their cruelty. With the exception of bull-baiting, it is said that these cruel sports are still indulged in, not only by the lower classes, but by those whose position in society and education ought to make them blush at seeking their pleasure in such brutal, disgusting, and degrading pursuits. The tone of society has, however, improved materially on these subjects. The law has pronounced against them; and the depraved appetite which seeks the excitement of such inhuman displays for the gratification of its unhealthy and perverted taste must now seek them in secret, with closed doors, and the dread of the law always before them. This is an improvement, and is a good mark by which to measure the progress of education, and to test the refining influences of those arts which Ovid tells us "soften the manners and polish the parts." But a century and half ago these cruel sports were pursued openly and without fear. No sense of their cruelty appears to have troubled the public conscience. They were advertised as regularly as other amusements, and their coming off recorded as bits of news in which all classes were interested. Cock-fighting was the favorite entertainment of this kind, and the announcements that mains of cocks will be fought are almost more frequent than are those of all other amusements put together. Hutton says, writing of the amusements of the people—"The relaxations of the humbler class are fives, quoits, skittles, and ale." The last three remain; what has become of fives we have no knowledge; perhaps it has shared the fate of the more noxious sports about which the historian is silent, but which the

ten Guinea a Battle, and two Hundred the Main; and each Party to weigh Twenty Cocks for Rye Battles, for Five Guinea a Battle, each Cock to give and take Half an Ounce, The Gentlemen of Worcester and Herefordshire against the Gentlemen of Warwickshire and Staffordshire."

And the paper for April 18 of the same year contains the following report of the amusements:—

"On Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday last was fought at Duddeston Hall, near this Town, between the Gentlemen of Worcestershire and Warwickshire, a match of Cocks for ten Guinea a Battle, and two Hundred the Main, and the Rye Battles at Five Guinea each. The Battles won on the Main were equal on each side, and the Odds in the Rye Battles were two in favour of the gentlemen of Warwickshire."

Similar advertisements appear for Bridgnorth, Stoke, Worcester, Wellington, Dudley, and in fact for nearly all the surrounding towns, so common and so public was this once most popular sport.

Theatrical amusements seem to have been popular at this time, for we read of no less than three places at which plays were acted. There was a theatre in New-street, and a new theatre in Smallbrook-street, and another new theatre in Moor-street. The two latter, however, were not licensed for dramatic performances, and their managers resorted to the practice of the man in the streets who sells you a straw and gives you a book. A concert was performed, for admission to which a charge was made, and then the play and afterpiece were "given gratis." The first announcement we have relating to the New-street Theatre is that of the benefit of Mr. Miller and his wife. Mr. Miller, it will be seen, was a "free and accepted" Mason. The notice appeared on January 31, 1743:—

"This Evening will be acted, at the Play-House in New-street, for the Benefit of Mr. Miller and his Wife, that celebrated Comedy call'd the 'Mourning Bride'; and for the Entertainment of the

In the same paper we read a report of the performance on the previous Friday, at the Smallbrook-street Theatre:—

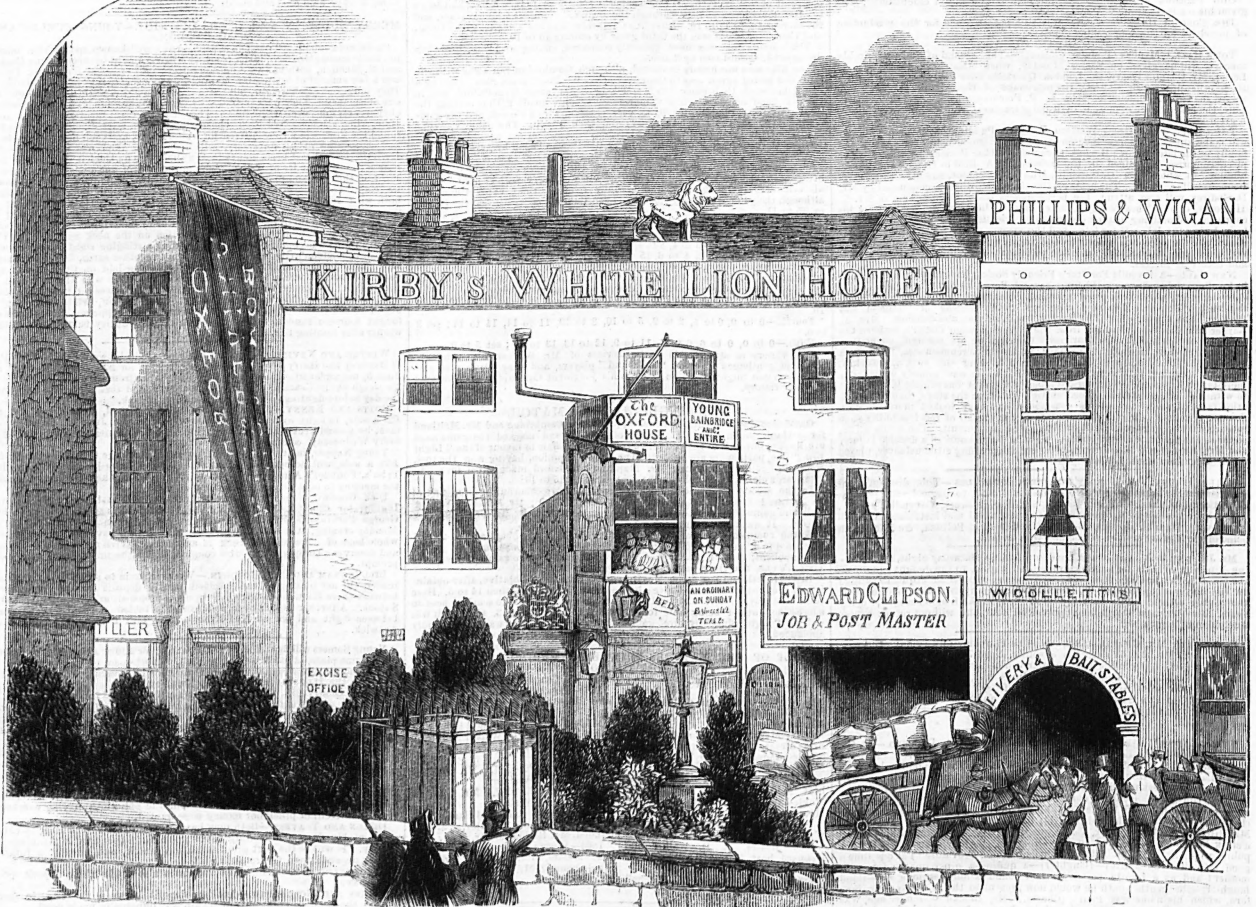
"The Play of 'The Earl of Essex,' and the celebrated Entertainment of 'Harlequin's Vagaries, or the Burgomaster Trick'd,' were perform'd on Friday Evening at the New Theatre in Smallbrook-street, to a crowded Audience, with universal Applause; and, by particular Desire, the same entertainment, with the Comedy of 'Love for Love,' written by Mr. Congreve (and several Entertainments of Singing and Dancing between the Acts) are to be performed There this Evening. The Company will continue in Town six Weeks, and no longer."

On the 15th of June, 1747, "Hamlet" is thus announced as the play for the night:—"This evening at the Theatre in Moor-street will be presented a Tragedy, call'd 'Hamlet, Prince of Denmark.'" On the same evening the Smallbrook-street company produced 'Othello,' so that the legitimate drama seems to have been popular. The performance is thus announced:—

"At the New Theatre in Smallbrook-street, this Evening, will be acted a celebrated Tragedy, call'd 'Othello, Moor of Venice,' written by the famous Shakespeare, to which (by desire) will be added a diverting Ballad Opera, call'd 'The Devil to Pay; or, the Wives Metamorphos'd,' with Singing between the acts. The Company will continue to act Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, for one Month, and no longer, beginning exactly at Seven o'clock."

We quote a short advertisement to show our readers the manner in which the performances were then announced. It is taken from the paper of August 4, 1746:—

"At the New Theatre in Moor-street, this present evening will be perform'd A Concert of Vocal and Instrumental Musick. Boxes, 2s. 6d. Pit, 2s. First Gal., 1s. Upper Gal., 6d. Between the two Parts of the Concert will be presented (Gratis), a Comedy, call'd 'The Miser.' The part of Lovagold the Miser by Mr. Breeze, Frederick by Mr. Smith, Clarimont by Mr. Slater, Ramillo by Mr. Wignell, James



TRAINING QUARTERS OF THE OXFORD CREW.

newspapers of the time make only too apparent. One or two of these announcements will suffice to illustrate the time. In June, 1746, we read:—

"This is to give Notice,—That there will be a Main of Cocks fought at Duddeston Hall, near Birmingham, betwixt the Gentlemen of Warwickshire and Worcestershire, for Four Guinea a Battle, and Forty Guinea the Main. To weigh on Monday, the 9th of June, and fight the two following Days."

It appears that all the festivals, such as Shrovetide, Easter, Whit-suntide, and so on, the following advertisement appears:—

"Birmingham Cock Match, 1747.—On Whitsun Monday, the 8th of June, will be shown at Duddeston Hall, near Birmingham, in Warwickshire, Forty-one Cocks on each Side, for a Match to be fought the three following Days, betwixt the Gentlemen of Warwickshire, Worcestershire, and Shropshire, for Ten Guinea a Battle, and Two Hundred the Odd Battle; and also Twenty-one Cocks on each Side for Rye Battles, which Rye Battles are to be fought for Two Guinea each Battle."

As a proof of the public interest taken in these sports, it may be mentioned that the same space is given to record the occurrence of a cock-fight as is given to the record of assize, royal birth-day celebrations, theatrical performances, fires, and other public events. The report of the match announced in the above advertisement is thus given in the paper on the Monday following:—"On Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday was fought at Duddeston Hall, near this Town, a Match of forty-one Cocks on each side, sed by Mr. Howell, of London, and by Mr. Beesley, of this Town, which was won by Mr. Beesley, tho' very great Odds were laid against him."

These events were often advertised two or three months in advance. Thus on February 29, 1748, we are informed that:—

"On Monday the 11th of April, 1748, being Easter Monday, will be a Match of Cocks weigh'd to fight the three following Days at Duddeston Hall, near Birmingham, each Party to weigh Forty-one Cocks, for

Brothens of the Antient Society of Free and Accepted Masons, will be spoke the Prologue and Epilogue made in Honour of the Society; and the several Brotherly Songs will be sung."

On the 18th of May, 1747, the following editorial notice appeared:—

"We are inform'd from Wisbech, that Mr. Herbert's Company of Comedians will be here, and open the Theatre in Moor-street, on Monday the First of June, with a Tragedy, call'd the 'Siege of Damascus,' with proper Dresses to every Character, and Scenes and Decorations proper to the play."

Our next is a curious notice of a performance to be given on the first of June, 1747. It does not appear as an advertisement, but as news although one bit of information given is as delicate a specimen of the puff journalism that it has ever been our lot to read. The last sentence also shows how widely the reform in dress introduced by Garrick and other great actors was spreading. It is true that the so-called interpreter and restorer of Shakspeare played Hamlet in a court suit, but he effected many reforms in the dressing and mounting of pieces, which have, we hope, now reached the culminating point. But to make our extract:—

"June 1st, 1747.—This evening, at the Theatre in Moor-street, by Mr. Herbert's Company, will be acted a Play, call'd the 'Siege of Damascus,' wrote by Mr. John Hughes, who died for Joy on its success after the first Night's Performance. He chose this Story to convince Mankind (as he often declar'd) that amongst Turks the Principles of Honour and Morality were not unknown, and by the character of Phocys, that he, the invincible else, was to be subdued by Love. To pretend to explain to an audience what they beforehand know, or are to expect, is anticipating their Pleasure, or a Presumption on their Understanding. This Play has been constantly honour'd in London by the most Brilliant Audiences. It is therefore to be hop'd what has been encouraged there, will at least be look'd at here by all Lovers of Learning and Taste. All the Characters in this Play will be dress'd in the proper Habits, as the Turks and Greeks there appear'd."

by Mr. Whitaker, Decoy by Mr. Child, Lift the Taylor by Mr. Waher, Mariana by Mrs. Slater, Harriot by Mrs. Wignell, Mrs. Wisely by Mrs. Child, Wheedle by Mrs. Smith, and the Part of Lappet by Mrs. Whitaker. To which will be added an Opera, call'd 'The Mock Doctor; or the Dumb Lady Cur'd,' The Part of the Doctor by Mr. Whitaker, Dorcas by Mr. Slater, Leander by Mr. Child, Sir Jasper by Mr. Breeze, Dumb Lady by Mrs. Whitaker. To begin exactly at Seven o'clock."

Hutton gives the following brief record of Birmingham theatricals up to the year 1751, the last of the decade to which we are now confining our remarks:—

"Theatrical exhibition in Birmingham is rather of a modern date. As far as memory can penetrate, the stroller occupied occasionally a shed of boards in the fields, now Temple-street. Here he acted the part of 'Diogenes' in a double capacity. The situation was afterwards changed, but not the eminence, and the Hinkleys dignified the performers' booth! In about 1730, the amusements of the stage rose in a superior style of elegance, and entered something like a stable in Castle-street. Here the comedian strutted in painted rags, ornamental with time; the audience raised a noisy laugh, half real and half forced, at threepence a head."

"In about 1740, a theatre was erected in Moor-street, which rather gave a spring to the amusement; in the day time the comedian beat up for volunteers for the night, delivered his bills of fare, and roared out an eulogium on the excellence of the entertainment, which had not always the desired effect. In 1751, a company arrived, which announced themselves, 'His Majesty's servants, from the theatre-royal in London; and hoped the public would excuse the ceremony of a drum, as beneath the dignity of a London company.' The novelty had a surprising effect; the performers had merit; the house was continually crowded; the general conversation turned upon theatrical exhibition, and the town was converted into one vast theatre."

Man's ingenuity in devising amusements has ever been tolerably active, and we find that in old Birmingham the people had plenty o

opportunities given them for sight-seeing. In the announcement to be quoted next mechanical skill of rather a high order is evinced in the production of an extraordinary musical clock, which was exhibited in 1742. On March 8 of that year this advertisement appeared:—

"For the entertaining amusement of the Quality, Gentry, and others.—There is to be seen and heard, at the Sign of the Wheat Sheaf, in the Bull Ring, Birmingham, a Curious and Unparalleled Musical Clock, made by David Lockwood, going by Springs Only, being a Machine incomparable in its Kind, as well for the Beauty of its Structure as the Nicety and Perfection of its Performance. Its compositions are admirable, and far more elegant than any yet extant, being the choicest Airs taken out of the best Operas, with graces ingeniously interm'd. Together with French Horn Pieces upon the Organ, German and Common Flute, Flageolet, &c., to the great satisfaction of the most eminent Masters and Judges, as Sonatas, Concertos, Marches, Minuets, Jigs, and Scots Airs, composed by Corelli, Albinoni, Mr. Handel, Dr. Bradley, and other eminent Masters. This beautiful and harmonious Machine may be seen (if desired) at any time of the Day by half a Dozen; but the Common Hours of showing it are Eleven in the Morning and Six at Night. Price Twelve Pence and Six Pence.

"Note.—The above Clock plays a Piece of Music every Four Hours of itself, and at Pleasure, is wound up once in Eight Days, and is now to be sold by Edmund Rising, the Owner. This Piece was never here before, nor the like seen. Any Persons that are curious, and desire to see the inside Work, shall be welcome. Our stay in this town will be very short."

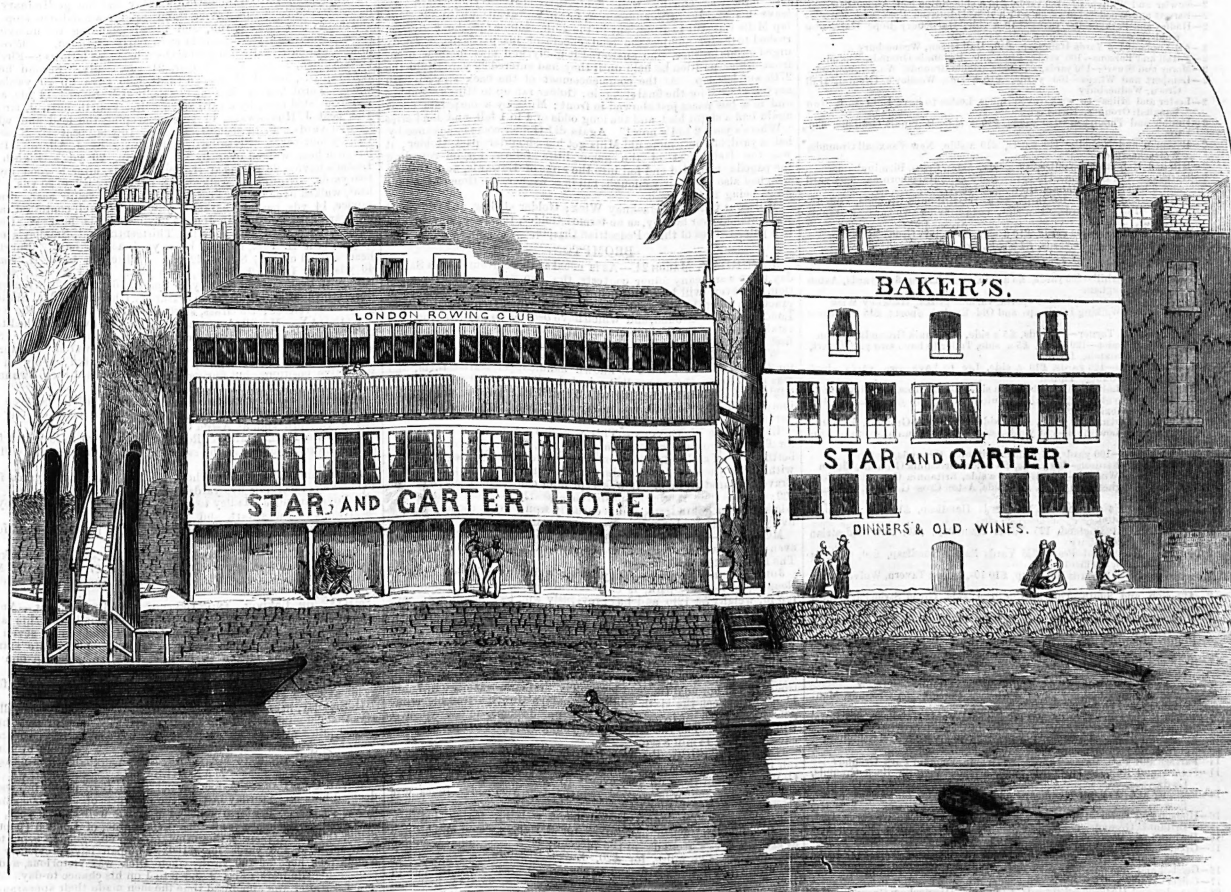
Wax Work Exhibitions have always had great attractions for a large class of sight-seers. Nor were our ancestors without this source of amusement. In June, 1746, a collection of wax figures was exhibited in Birmingham, the nature of which will be gathered from the following advertisement:—

of the Sun thro' the Mid Air, had like, thro' this Misconduct, to have set the World on Fire; but was destroy'd by a Thunderbolt from Jupiter, and thrown headlong into the River Padus in Italy, otherwise call'd Eridanus. Likewise the Triumphs of Bacchus and Ariadne, represented in a grand and magnificent manner, and adorned with all the Ornaments and Decorations which can fill the Mind with pleasing Ideas, and charm a judicious and curious Spectator. Likewise a curious Organ, which performs several select Pieces of Music, composed by the best Masters.

"N.B.—The Machine is in Height twelve Feet, in Breadth nine, and in Depth seven, and not seen through any Glass. In order to afford the Virtuosi an agreeable Amusement, Mr. Yeates will perform his inimitable Dexterity of Hands; Who, for his Cards, and the clean Conveyance of his Outlandish Birds, that Talk very agreeably at the Word of command, together with his sudden and surprising production of an Apple-Tree, which he causes to Grow, Blossom, and bear Ripe Fruit fit for any Person to Eat of it in less than three Minutes' Time; and several other surprising Tricks, is allowed, by the curious, to excel all other Performers. Pit is. Upper Seats 6d. The Doors to be opened at Six o'clock, and begin at Seven. Gentlemen or Ladies may have a private Performance, giving two Hours' Notice."

There was a popular piece of amusement at Aston, which was well known till within a very few years. At the Apollo Tea Gardens concert is used to be given, fire-works discharged, balloon ascents made, and dancing *ad libitum*, as well as within doors, afforded the people of the day a round of amusements, in which they readily participated. Then, as now, the inclemency of the weather was a source of much anxiety to out-of-door pleasure seekers; and one advertisement, taken from the *Gazette* of May 9, 1748, contains the announcement of the postponement of a performance on this account, and will give our readers an idea of the entertainments which were given at these once celebrated gardens.

ment will supply the West, a stud farm of magnificent proportions should be located in the East. In organising a company on the plan of the Rawcliffe, a great advantage is derived by the public. Annual sales of the yearlings take place, generally in the fall, without reserve. The sales are public, and every one is privileged to become the purchaser of the colt of his selection. None but the best racing families should be admitted into the stud and the blood of the stock should be kept up to its highest condition. As the East is destined to become a great racing district, land should be selected for the breeding farm in the vicinity of New York. None but gentlemen of position and enlightened views should be connected with the movement, for it is desired to give dignity as well as popularity to the enterprise. In purchasing land and stock, and erecting buildings, and carrying on the movement, a capital of not less than two hundred thousand dollars will be required, yet this sum should not be difficult to obtain when we look at the safety of the investment. Such men as Mr. Belmont, Mr. Forbes, Mr. Sanford, Mr. Travers, Mr. Osgood, Mr. Turnbull, Mr. Watson, Mr. Cameron, Mr. Hunter, the Messrs. Jerome and others, no doubt, will take an interest in the movement, and advance the necessary funds. It is not an enterprise of hazard, but one infinitely more safe than the thousand and one speculations of the day. While we are well supplied with stallions, blooded mares are not equal to the demand, and it would become necessary to import some of the finest breeds of England to stock the farm. Balfour, Eclipse, Lapidus, Planet, Leamington, Warmister, Hartington, Prophet and others, belonging to the Eastern section of the country, already are in the stud, while a few years will add to the number such magnificent horses as Kentucky, Arcola, Fleetwing, Loadstone, and others. From such an imposing array a sufficient number could be selected for the Stud Farm, while an arrangement could be made which would result in an exchange of services. In addition to this enterprise, we again would urge upon the attention of Turfmen the



TRAINING QUARTERS OF THE CAMBRIDGE CREW.

"This is to give Notice to all Gentlemen, Ladies, and others, That there is come to this town, from Fleet Street, near Temple Bar, London, and is now to be seen at the Chamber over the Old Cross, The Royal Wax Work, representing the Royal Family of Great Britain, richly dressed, and in full Proportion, as they appear at St. James's on the King's Birthday, the late Queen Caroline being dressed in a Suit of her own Cloaths. They are esteemed by all who have seen them, the most beautiful Work that has ever been seen in the Kingdom, being valued at Five Hundred Pounds, and have been shewn to most of the Nobility of the Kingdom with great satisfaction. N.B. They will be shown from Ten in the Morning till Nine at Night, and the Company entertained with Variety of Music, Vocal and Instrumental; the latter performed on a Chamber Organ, with two Sets of Keys; the full Organ, with the Stops as follow: Stop Diapason, the Trumpet Stop, the Principal Stop, the Coroned and Fifteenth, the Chair Organ and Flute Stops. Price Sixpence and Three-pence."

But the musical clock and the wax works must "pale their ineffectual" powers before the wonderful collection of works of art exhibited in May, 1749. The advertisement gives full details, and will be read with interest at the present time:—

"This is to acquaint the Curious, that at the Black Bull, in Edgbaston-street, Birmingham, this and every Evening, during his Stay in Town, Mr. Yeates, from London, will exhibit a Grand, Curious and Splendid Representation of the Temple of Apollo, at Delphos in Greece. Being the Temple to which Alexander the Great went to inquire who was his Father; whether he had reveng'd his Death on all his Enemies; and where the Heavens of Old repair'd in Times of private Distress, or public Danger. This admirable Piece of Art is adorn'd with every Thing that can render it pleasing to the Spectator, having curious Pillars of Lapis Lazuli, and embellish'd with Painting in an elegant Manner. Phaeton is represented petitioning Apollo to let him drive the Chariot of the Sun, which being granted occasions the Fall of Phaeton, who wanting judgment to conduct the Chariot

"Whereas the Performance of Music and Fire-Works, at Bridgman's Gardens, at the Apollo at Aston, near Birmingham, was to have been on Thursday last, but the Inclemency of the Weather preventing 'tis postponed to next Thursday Evening, when a grand Trio of Mr. Handel's out of Asis and Galates, and that favourite Duet of Mr. Arne's call'd Damon and Chloë, will be performed by Mr. Bridgman, and a Gentleman of the Town."

These extracts will sufficiently prove that the people of the old town knew how to enjoy themselves, and that they had ample opportunities of doing so.—Written for Birmingham Daily Gazette.

WHAT THEY WANT IN AMERICA.

The great success of The Rawcliffe Stud Company in England suggests to us the importance of the organization of a similar company in this country. Racing is growing so popular on this side of the Atlantic that it seems almost imperative that more extensive preparations should be made for the breeding of thoroughbreds. It is true that many wealthy and public spirited gentlemen are engaged in breeding blooded stock, yet, as they reserve the best foals for their own stables, and, owing to the constantly growing demand, all of the requirements of the public are not met. Something is wanting, and we believe that that something will be supplied by the organization of a company to breed exclusively for the public and the race course. We do not wish to supplant the present system of breeding, but simply to make an addition to it. The Rawcliffe Stud Company of England owns three thousand acres of ground, which have been transformed into a breeding farm, and the shareholders are wealthy gentlemen of Yorkshire. The capital is almost unlimited, and the profits have been immense. Last fall, the stud consisted of eleven stallions, forty-two brood mares and twenty-nine foals. Although, this is a large establishment, sink into comparative insignificance, when compared with the Woodburn Stud Farm, of which Mr. Alexander is the proprietor. His catalogue of stock shows that he is one of the largest, if not the very largest, breeders in the world. While Mr. A.'s establish-

importance of establishing public training stables in the vicinity of New York. In fact, the movements are inseparably connected, and one could be made a branch of the other, both under the same control. The great interest now manifested in the race course suggests to us the propriety of taking measures to increase that interest, and to advance the prospects of the Turf. In the next five years, we can make our country as famous for her Turf institutions and thoroughbred stock, as England is at the present day. Two golden opportunities are now presented to revolutionize opinion, and we trust that our public spirited men will take advantage of it.—The Sportsman's Oracle.

The Cheshire hounds still go on, at the particular request of the farmers, who are of opinion that they do not carry infection, which Sir Watkin Wynne was anxious to ascertain from them, as he made it quite a farmer's question. However, as his own horses are stumped by from the severity of their work, he has given up himself, and gone on a tour to Rome. Several packs of hounds are about to come to the hammer shortly, particulars of which shall be given in due time.

Daily's Magazine for this month has peculiar charms for the Northamptonshire folks, from containing the best account of the Waterloo Run with the Pythons, illustrated by a capital map of the line of country traversed by the fox or foxes, for it is still a *recata questio* whether the hounds changed. The portrait of Mr. Farquharson, the veteran ex-master of foxhounds, and the idol of Dorsetshire, is very lifelike, and some original anecdotes of men who flourished in his time are given in the accompanying memoir, and will be keenly relished. The Paris papers are, as usual, enjoyable; but the article entitled "A New Enemy to Fox hunting" ought never to have been admitted into the pages of the periodical, as it is heavy as lead, arid, and verbose in its style—dealing in personalities, which cannot be too strongly condemned, as being offensive to good taste and utterly opposed to the spirit of the age in which we live.

MARCH

previous years, the Committee of the Cornwall and Devon Wrestling Society having agreed to hold their annual meeting this year at Mr. Baum's. The race of Monday was between

and the betting, which had been any odds in his favour, changed. He struggled on most gamely, however, under difficulties, and was finally cheered as he passed the goal in front of time 48 sec. He asked most undecidably fair throughout. This latter affair it is sur-
ed, will lead to a most important match being made.

to have little spin between J. Gordon, or Rendition, and A. Armby, of Manchester, for £20, goes on all serene. It is to be decided here on April 7.

On Monday morning Mr. C. Morgan was knocked down by a car in Harley-street, and was seriously injured about the head. He remains in precarious state.

AUSTRALIAN NEWS.

THE TASMANIAN CHAMPION RACE.

BY "ORANGE BLOSSOM" OF "HELL'S LIFE" IN VICTORIA.

Two Champion Races within six weeks of each other is something unheard of in the annals of the Australian Turf; and the "select few" who are so averse to handicaps, ought to be perfectly satisfied with the large sums set aside in the different colonies for weight-for-age races. The howl set up by these would-be regenerators of the Turf must have made the committee of the Victoria Racing Club tremble in their shoes; and, I have no doubt, they will see the folly (?) of making the Melbourne Cup a handicap and at once alter the conditions of the race to weight-for-age. Then, instead of twenty-three actual starters, there will be about ten nominations, and perhaps two starters.

Surely the poor men ought to have a chance as well as the rich: there are many first-rate sportsmen who have not the means to purchase such yearlings as Kingfisher; and to give them an opportunity of pulling off a "good thing" now and then, we must still stick to handicaps. There are many Champion Races, Adelaide Cups, &c., for such animals as Tarragon, Volunteer, Angler, and Panic; and we must adhere to the handicapping system for the "small fry."

The Launceston Champion Race of last year proved such an indisputable success that the stewards determined upon having another for 1866. They have issued in the "right little island," and should the weather prove propitious, and the ground not interfere with the preparation of the different horses, there will be such a gathering upon the Launceston course as has never been seen by the

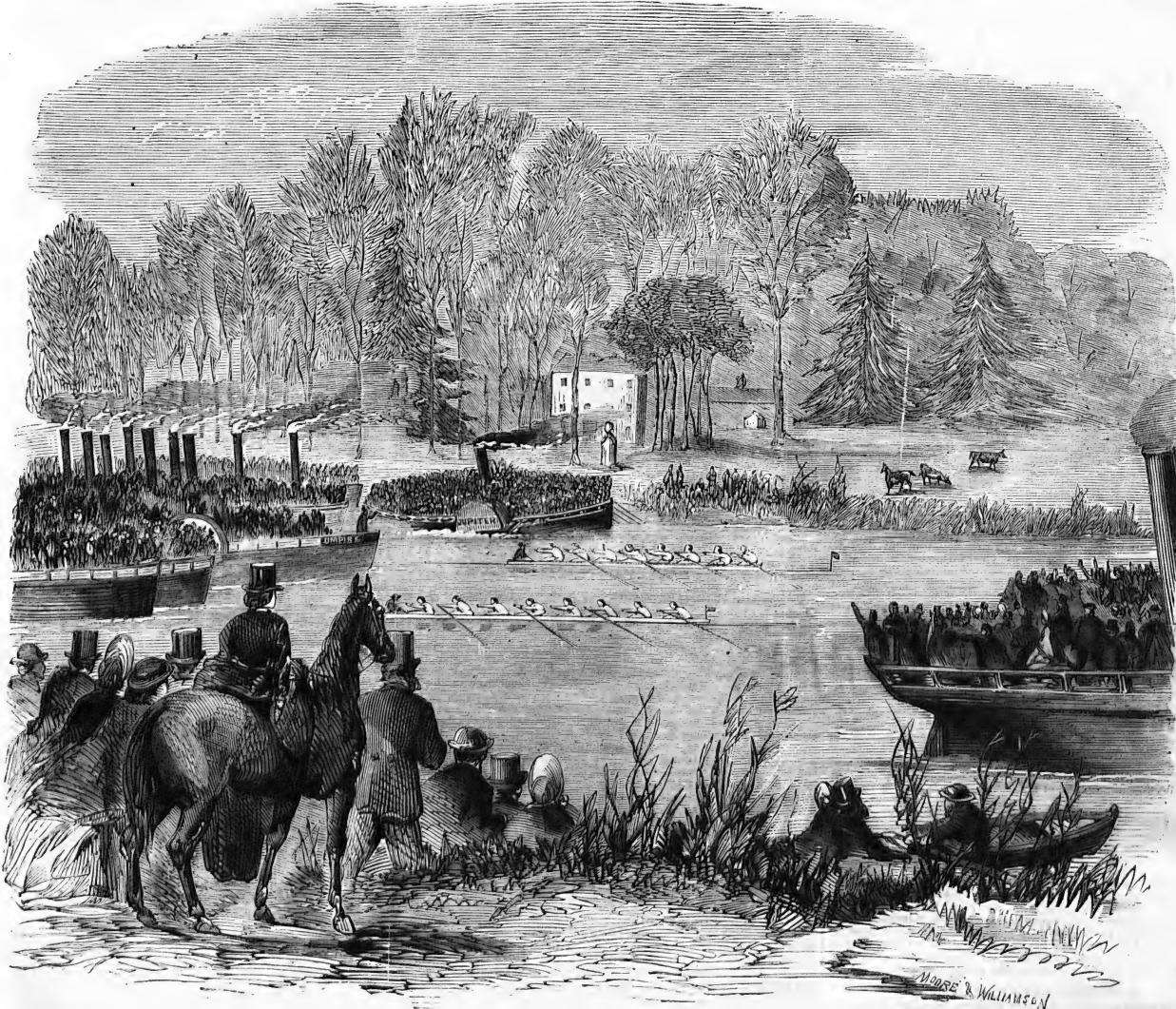
for the Mayor's Cup. By many his chance is thought to be better than Panic's, and his running at the late Spring Meeting justifies this idea. He has been gradually improving since last season, and should he come fit to the post, I expect to see a great race with him, Volunteer, and Angler. The latter went lame on the Saturday previous to New Year's Day, but is now himself again. He is said to be superior to Lady Heron at three miles, and should this be correct, he must certainly beat Panic, who had all his work to beat the filly on the 1st January, though Mr. Dowling's horse may run better "over the way," than in Victoria. Of the remainder of the Victorian division little can be said, the best—Ebor and Shepherdess—cannot live with the four I have named. The Tasmanian lot are not much to be feared, for their best horses, Post, Songster, and Cadland, have broken down, and Saxby's understandings are not good enough to stand the preparation. Archer defeated Musidora at the last meeting, and he is game to the back bone, but he has not pace enough to contend with such animals as Volunteer and Angler. Cupbearer, the Adelaide representative, has won several races in his own country, and may run into a place. Looking at the public running of Volunteer, The Sign, Angler, and Panic, I think they may be safely taken against the field; and if anything beats Volunteer, it must be one of Mr. Fisher's.

Angler is in the Leger, and unless the Tasmanians have an extraordinary young one, he will win it. The Handicap will be a canter for Volunteer; the Two-year-old Stakes ought to be won by Nimble-foot or Siren. In conclusion, I would advise all who wish to enjoy a grand treat to pay a visit to Tasmania, the scenery being the finest in the Southern Hemisphere; they may also rest assured of a hearty welcome.

21, at Accrington—USBE v Twenty-two Accrington and District
24, at Charlton, near Woolwich—USBE v Twenty-two Charlton and District
24, at the Oval—Surrey Club and Ground v Southgate
24, at Glasgow—All England Eleven v Twenty-two West of Scotland
25, at Peckham Rye—Borough Hop Trade v Royal Gun Factory
25, at Ossett—All England Eleven v Twenty-two Ossett and District
25, at Lord's—MCC (with three players) v Surrey Club (with three players)
29, at Cheltenham—Marlborough College v Cheltenham College
31, at Cambridge—Cambridgeshire v Nottinghamshire
31, at the Oval—Gentlemen of Surrey Club v Fourteen Colts of the County

with a captain
31, at the Oval—Surrey Club and Ground v Southgate Club
Data not fixed, at Oxford—Oxford University v. M.C.C. and Ground.
Date not fixed, at Oxford—Royal Military Academies, Woolwich v Sandhurst.

JUNE
2, at Middlesex Ground—Borough Hop Trade v Bedford Amateurs
4, at Lord's—MCC and Ground v Hampshire
4, at Southgate—Southgate Club v Surrey Club and Ground (return)
4, at the Oval—Surrey Club and Ground v County of Essex
4, at Islington—Middlesex v Cambridgeshire
4, at Peterborough—USBE v Twenty-two Peterborough and District
7, at Harrow—USBE v Twenty Harrow Club
7, at King's Lynn—All England Eleven v Twenty-two King's Lynn and district
7, at the Oval—Surrey Club (with three players) v MCC (with three players) (return)
7, at Newport Pagnell—Hants v Bucks
9, at Peckham Rye—Borough Hop Trade v West London Star
11, at Horncastle—United AEE v Twenty-two of Horncastle
11, at Lord's—MCC and Ground v Cambridge University (return)
11, at the Oval—Surrey v Sussex
11, at Heckmondwike—All England Eleven v Twenty-two Heckmondwike and district



THE UNIVERSITY BOAT RACE.

oldest inhabitant. For it is well known that many of the Tasmanians still imagine that their pet, Panic, is superior to Volunteer; and hundreds will flock to the trysting place if only to see those notable champions fight their battle over again. The stock of old Fishermen also will play an important part in the different events; and this being the first appearance of the old horse's progeny upon Tasmanian soil, great interest will be taken in the performances of Angler and Siren. For the Champion Race, Volunteer occupies the position his Champion running entitles him to, that of first favourite; and the manner in which he disposed of Panic proves the correctness of his running for the Guineas. He is one of the gamest horses in existence, and should he remain in his Champion form till the 6th of February, he will again show the way to the son of Alarm.

It has been rumoured that Volunteer has trained off already, but this I do not credit, and I do not believe there will be one in the field more fitted to contest the race; he can stay the distance with ease, and I cannot help thinking Mr. Tait is fairly on the road to winning another of the rich prizes his pluck and energy entitle him to obtain. Panic is in high favour with the Tasmanian division, but this fondness is solely owing to the losses having belonged to a Tasmanian sportsman, and Tasmania being the country in which he made his debut. In my opinion Volunteer holds him quite safe. The Sign, who went lame at Ballarat, has perfectly recovered, and is now, I believe, doing gentle galloping exercise. This grandson of Sweetbody by his running at a moderate three-year-old form, surprised everybody by his weight for age, defeated easily his old rival, O.K. His running in the V.R.O. Handicap was first-rate, for it must be remembered that Sir Patrick ran a great race with Volunteer and Tarragon

CRICKET.

TO SECRETARIES OF CLUBS.

We shall be glad to receive any notices of matches to come off, which, when played, shall have every attention at our hands, if an account, and other particulars, as brief as possible, consistently with their importance, be forwarded to us as early as possible.

THE LEADING MATCHES FOR 1866.

APRIL.

2, at Nottingham—The Nottinghamshire Colts' match
21, at Peckham Rye—Borough Hop Trade v East Central
23, at Peckham Rye—Borough Hop Trade v Fentiman Club

MAY.

2, at Lord's—MCC Anniversary Dinner
7, at Lord's—MCC and Ground v The Knickerbockers (the Army Club)
7, at Southampton—The County Eleven v 16 Colts, with Southampton
10, at Cambridge—Cambridge University v MCC and Ground
10, at Oxford—MCC and Ground v University of Oxford
10, at Glasgow—USBE v Twenty-two Clydesdale Club
13, at Peckham Rye—Borough Hop Trade v Messrs Bargeyns, Burbridge, and Co
14, at Quarry Gap, Bradford—USBE v 19 Colts (with three professionals)
14, at Cambridge—All England Eleven v Eighteen of Trinity College
14, at the Oval—Gentlemen of Surrey Club v Eighteen of 1st Surrey Rifles
14, at Islington—Middlesex Club v Metropolitan Club
17, at Oxford—All England Eleven v Fourteen of the University
17, at Lord's—Royal Military Academies of Woolwich and Sandhurst
19, at the Oval—Borough Hop Trade v Vine Club
21, at Lord's—All England v the United Eleven (for the benefit of the Cricketers' Fund)

11, at Islington—Middlesex Club v Richmond
14, at Ashton-under-Lyne—All England Eleven v Eighteen Gentlemen and two professionals
14, at Lord's—MCC and Ground v Oxford University (return)
14, at Woolwich—Royal Artillery v Gentlemen of Sussex
14, at the Oval—Surrey v Cambridge University
16, at Limehouse—Borough Hop Trade v Messrs Bargeyns, Burbridge, and Co (return)
18, at Tonbridge—All England Eleven v Twenty-two Tonbridge and District
18, at Lord's—THE UNIVERSITIES: Oxford and Cambridge
18, at Bradford—Yorkshire v Nottinghamshire
18, at Brighton—Sussex v Kent
18, at Lord's—Surrey County match, not yet arranged
18, at Hertford—USBE v Twenty-two Hertford Town Club
21, at Thorne, near Doncaster—United AEE v Twenty of Thorne and District, with two bowlers
21, at Trent Bridge Ground—County of North v County of Middlesex
21, at the Oval—Surrey v Oxford University
21, at Brighton—Gentlemen of Sussex v Gentlemen of Kent
21, at Nottingham—Nottinghamshire v Middlesex
21, at Broughton—All England Eleven v Eighteen Broughton Club and Ground
25, at Birmingham—United AEE v Twenty-two of Birmingham Club
25, at Southport—All England Eleven v Twenty-two Southport and District
27, at Islington—The Gentlemen of England v the Players
28, at the Oval—Middlesex Club v Inceville
28, at Victoria Park—Borough Hop Trade v East Central (return)
Data not fixed, at Lord's—MCC and Ground v the County of Devon
Data not fixed, at Lord's—MCC v Royal Artillery

JULY.

2, at Lord's—North v South
2, at the Oval—Gentlemen of Surrey Club v Gentlemen of Scotland
2, at Southampton—Gentlemen of Hampshire v Gentlemen of Sussex

at Islington—Middlesex Club v Marlborough College
 5, at Islington—Gentlemen of Middlesex v Gentlemen of Yorkshire
 6, at Manchester—Middlesex v Lancashire
 6, at the Oval—Surrey v Kent
 6, at Nottingham—Nottinghamshire v Cambridgeshire (return)
 6, at Southampton—Gentlemen of Hampshire v Gentlemen of Devon
 6, at Peckham Rye—Borough Hop Trade v Vine Club (return)
 6, at St. Ives—United ABE v Twenty of St. Ives and District, with two bowlers
 9, at Bedford—All England Eleven v Twenty-two Bedford and District
 9, at Lords—MCC and Ground v the County of Sussex
 9, at the Oval—Surrey v Hampshire
 10, at Islington—Middlesex Club v Anomalies
 12, at Oulton—All England Eleven v Twenty-two Oldham and District
 12, at Gravesend—Kent v Surrey (return)
 13, at the Oval—Gentlemen of Surrey v Royal Artillery (return)
 13, at Lords—The Public Schools: Eton v Harrow
 14, at Battersea Park—Borough Hop Trade v West London Star (return)
 16, at Dudley—All England Eleven v Twenty-two Dudley and District
 16, at Lords—MCC and Ground v the County of Suffolk
 16, at Brighton—Sussex v Surrey (return)
 16, at Islington—Middlesex v Lancashire (return)
 16, at Southampton—Hants v MCC (return)
 19, at Rodcar—United ABE v Twenty-two Rodcar and Coatham
 19, at Southampton—Hants v Bucks (return)
 19, at Lords—M.C.C. and Ground v the County of Norfolk
 19, at the Oval—Surrey v Lancashire
 19, at Wicksworth—All England Eleven v Twenty-two Wicksworth and District
 23, at Gravesend—Kent v Sussex (return)
 23, at the Oval—Surrey Club and Ground v the County of Essex
 23, at Sutton in Ashfield—United ABE v Twenty-two Sutton and District
 23, at Whitehaven—All England Eleven v Twenty-two Whitehaven and District
 23, at the Oval—Gentlemen of the South v Free Foresters
 26, at Islington—Middlesex v Surrey

20, at the Oval—Surrey v Middlesex (return)
 20, at Eastbourne—United ABE v Eastbourne Club
 20, at North Shields—All England Eleven v Twenty-two North Shields and District
 23, at Brighton—Gentlemen of Sussex v Gentlemen of Hampshire (return)
 23, at Chelmsford—The County of Essex v Surrey Club and Ground (return)
 23, at Liverpool—Surrey v Lancashire (return)
 23, at Bolton—All England Eleven v Twenty-two Bolton and District
 27, at the Oval—Surrey v the Rest of the South of England
 27, at Brighton—Gentlemen of Sussex v Royal Artillery (return)
 30, at Southgate—Surrey Club v Southgate

SEPTEMBER.

3, at Broadwater—USEE v Eighteen Godalming, Guildford and District
 6, at Althorp Park, Northampton—USEE v Lord Spencer's Eighteen
 10, at Smethwick—USEE v Twenty-two Smethwick and District
 13, at Bootle, near Liverpool—USEE v Twenty-two Bootle and District

PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENTS.

At Westminster, the ground man for "all the year round," is T. Mantle, a civil, well-behaved fellow, a good cricketer, and an excellent coach; he will be assisted in June by M. Armstrong, of Surrey.

At Uppingham they have engaged R. Iddison, and a more able professional to teach Young England how to bowl, bat, and field than sturdy Roger Iddison we don't know, and we do know a few good ones.

At Rossall, T. Sewall, jun., is engaged for April, and T. B. Clifton, of Nottinghamshire, for the season.

At Charterhouse, R. Bush, of Surrey, will again coach the Carthusians.

At Stonyhurst College, Luke Greenwood, of Yorkshire, is engaged.

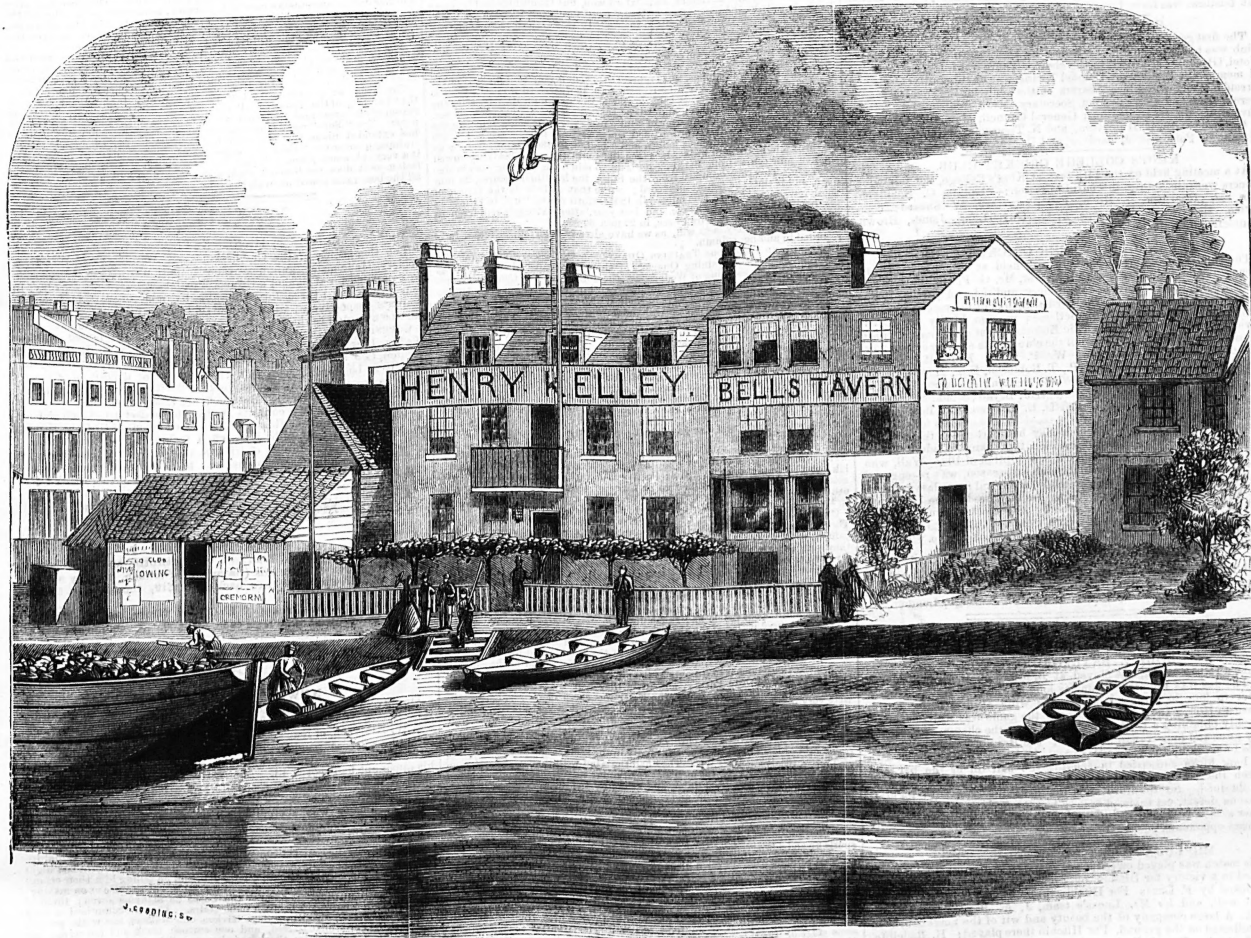
At Brighton College, George Bennett, of Kent, is engaged.
 At Wellington College, the professional bowlers will be E. S. Shaw and J. O. Shaw, both of Nottingham, and the last-named the left hand bowler that made so successful a county debut last season.

YORKSHIRE MATCHES.—The undermentioned three matches are at present date arranged by the Bradford Club.—May 7, at Bradford—Yorkshire v. Cambridgeshire; June 8, at Bradford—Yorkshire v. Nottinghamshire; and August 2, at Nottingham—Yorkshire v. Nottinghamshire (return).

CLYDESDALE CRICKET CLUB.—The nineteenth annual meeting of this club was held last week, in the Clarence Hotel, Glasgow, when the following were elected officers for the ensuing season:—R. Arthur, Esq., president; Alexander Glen, Esq., vice-president; ground committee, Messrs. Cruickshank, McComb, J. McArly; match committee, Messrs. A. Campbell, C. Campbell, Stewart, J. McArly, jun., W. McPherson, T. McArly, jun., hon. secretary; W. McPherson, hon. treasurer. From the secretary's report for last year it was seen that the club had been very successful, having played twenty-two matches, of which fourteen were won, five lost, and three drawn. The chairman intimated that a match had been arranged with the United South of England Eleven, for May 10, 11, and 12, and Jupp and Humphrey being in this team, along with other celebrated cricketers, the match is looked forward to with great interest, and the coming season is expected to be even more successful than last.

MOORGATE CRICKET CLUB.—This club has vacancies for several Saturday afternoon matches. Apply to the secretary, W. Dagg, 62, Moorgate-street, E.C.

POSTERS AND WOOD'S CLUB.—The secretary of this club informs us that they have an excellent private ground adjoining their factory, and will be glad to receive challenges from any amateur club in London or its neighbourhood, for Saturday afternoon out-and-home matches, for the undermentioned days:—May 3, 19; June 2, 16, 30; July 14, 28; August 11, 25; and September 8. Applications are requested to be sent to Mr. J. Anderson, secretary, Pontifex and Wood's Chemical Works, Millwall, E.



"THE BELLS," PUTNEY.

at Gravesend—Gentlemen of Kent v Gentlemen of Sussex (return).
 at Savile Town, Dewsbury—United ABE v Twenty-two Dewsbury and District
 6, at Darlington—All England Eleven v Twenty-two Darlington and District
 27, at Brighton—Gentlemen of Sussex v Royal Artillery (return)
 27, at the Oval—Gentlemen of the South v Players of the South
 28, at Wo. which Common—Borough Hop Trade v Bedford Royal Gun Factory (return)
 30, at Lords—MCC and Ground v Rugby School
 30, at the Oval—Surrey v Kent
 30, at Keighley—United ABE v Twenty-two of Keighley and District
 30, at Bishop Stortford—All England Eleven v Sixteen Gentlemen and two professionals

31, at Islington—Middlesex Club v Woodford

AUGUST.

2, at Nottingham—Nottinghamshire v Yorkshire (return)
 2, at Southgate—USEE v John Walker, Esq.'s Fifteen
 4, at Peckham Rye—Borough Hop Trade v Bedford Amateurs (return)
 6, at the Oval—Surrey Club v Wimbledon Club
 6, at Canterbury—(The Wanderers) North v South (return)
 6, at Hyde—United ABE v Twenty-two of Hyde Club
 6, at Kendal—All England Eleven v Twenty-two Kendal and District
 9, at Canterbury—Gentlemen of Kent v Gentlemen of MCC
 9, at Islington—Middlesex v Nottinghamshire (return)
 9, at Southgate—Surrey v Surrey (return)
 9, at Colchester—Surrey Club and Ground v County of Essex
 9, at Stoke on Trent—USEE v Twenty-two
 11, at Clapham Common—Borough Hop Trade v Pentinman Club (return)
 12, at Brighton—Sussex v MCC and Ground (return)
 13, at the Oval—A Surrey County match (not yet arranged)
 13, at Ashford—USEE v Twenty-two Milton Hall Club
 13, at Mansfield—All England Eleven v Twenty-two Mansfield and District
 14, at the Oval—Surrey Club v Birchhead Club
 14, at Bradford—United ABE v Twenty-two Bradford and District
 16, at Brighton—Gentlemen of Sussex v Cambridge Guildnans
 16, at Manchester—Lancashire v Surrey (return)
 16, at Southampton—Surrey v Hants (return)
 16, at Farnham—All England Eleven v Twenty-two Birkenhead Club and Ground
 16, at Cambridge—Middlesex v Cambridge (return)

ANOTHER ENGLISH ELEVEN FOR AUSTRALIA.—On this subject, a report in *Bell's Victoria*, of a meeting of the Victorian Cricketers' Association, closes as follows:—"The feeling of the meeting was almost unanimous that it was far too soon for the Englishmen to make a third descent upon us."

BREMEN EXHIBITION.—This club being anxious to complete their match list will be happy to make arrangements for out and home day matches with the Clarens (Half Moon Putney), Surrey Albions (Oval), or any other amateur club within twenty miles of London. Also a few Saturday half-day matches. The Caridgan or any other club wishing for the same on early application will meet with prompt attention. Address to Secretary, Leather Market Tavern, Bermondsey.

Faodel, Phillips, and Sons' United Club would be happy to receive challenges from any of their old friends.—W. C. Herring, honorary secretary, 38 and 40, Newgate-street.

THE BEPROM AMATEURS CLUB.—The secretary will be glad to receive challenges from other clubs of similar strength in the neighbourhood of London, for first and one or two second eleven matches. Address, J. Smales, 219, Caledonian road, Islington.

BURTON UNITED CRICKET CLUB.—The annual general meeting of the above club was held at the club-room, High-street, Camdenton last week, the president, Mr. C. C. H. Chapman, in the chair. The report on the financial affairs of the club was read by the hon. sec., and unanimously agreed to; the announcement that Lord Fernley and Mr. H. Lewis, the respected members for Marlborough, had subscribed respectively £5 and £2 to the club, was received with loud cheers. Mr. C. C. H. Chapman was unanimously re-elected president, Mr. A. Croft as captain, and Mr. E. T. Andrews as hon. sec. and treasurer, and the following gentlemen were chosen to serve upon the committee for the ensuing year: Messrs. J. W. Nicholson, W. E. Dunsterville, J. Bird, G. B. Blegg, A. Stirling, and J. M. S. Nicholson. The club will be happy to accept "out-and-home" challenges from any rising young club in the metropolis, especially from their old friendly antagonists.

CLERKENWELL CRICKET CLUB.—This club commenced its season on Good Friday, with a match amongst the members and friends, on their old ground, the Shute House, Highbury. The following are the officers for the year:—Patron, Alderman Lust, Esq., M.P.; president, William Cox, Esq.; vice-presidents, H. Carlos, Esq., and James Havill jun., Esq.; treasurer, Mr. John Freer; committee, Messrs. R. Cox., G. Saunders, S. Loveday, F. Loveday, H. Harris, Wood, and H. Smith; hon. secretary, Mr. T. H. Eastling, 1, St. John's-terrace, Clerkenwell, E.C., to whom gentlemen desirous of joining this flourishing club should make early application.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The public school business appears to be in as great a state of doubt and difficulty as ever if we judge of the matter from the following letters which appear in a contemporary:—

"The Schools, Shrewsbury, Feb. 27th.

"Dear Sir,—I write to ask if a match between Westminster and Shrewsbury can be arranged for this season. The most convenient date for us would be any day in the week beginning June 17. We shall be happy to play on any ground in London which you may select.—Yours truly,

"The Captain of the Westminster Eleven."

"Westminster, March 5th.

"Sir,—The captain of the Westminster Eleven is sorry to disappoint Shrewsbury, but Westminster plays no schools except public schools. The general feeling in the school quite coincides with that of the committee of the Public Schools Club, who issue this list of public schools.—Charterhouse, Eton, Harrow, Rugby, Westminster, and Winchester.—Yours truly,

"E. Oliver, Captain.

"The Captain of the Shrewsbury Eleven."

"The Schools, Shrewsbury, March 9th.

"Sir,—I cannot allow your answer to my first letter to pass without some notice. I have only to say that a school, which we have

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—A frequent cause of gout and rheumatism is the inflammatory state of the blood, attended with bad action of the liver and general debility. A few doses of these pills taken in time are a certain preventive against gout and rheumatism, but any one who has a attack of either, should use Holloway's Ointment also, the powerful power of which, combined with the influence of the pills, must infallibly cure. These pills are directed to the blood, which they purify and regulate. They also regulate the secretions, and put an end to the stomach, as the whole system is invigorated, and put into a condition which will stop the approach of the disease or throw it off.

THE INMAN, THE TRANSATLANTIC, AND THE MEXICAN STEAM-SHIP COMPANIES,

AND
THE ROYAL LONDON YACHT CLUB

HAVE ADOPTED

L'EXTINCTEUR.

FOR RACING STABLES, FOR GENTLEMEN'S MANSIONS, CONTAINING WORKS OF ART AND HEIRLOOMS THAT NO MONEY-VALUE CAN REPLACE, THE EXTINGUEUR IS A DESIDERATUM AS INVALUABLE AS IT IS INEXPENSIVE.

The two accidents, the one at Lord Crewe's, the other at Braithwaite's Mills, are published as showing the TOTAL DESTRUCTION OF THE ONE, and the COMPLETE SAFETY OF THE OTHER, and to prove the assertion of the licensee, that had the seat of the noble lord been furnished with Extingueurs, no particle of damage would have been sustained.

DESTRUCTION OF CREWE HALL, CHESHIRE.—Yesterday morning, at two o'clock, the discovery was made that Crewe Hall, Cheshire, the seat of Lord Crewe, was on fire. It appears that shortly after Lord Crewe had retired to rest, about one o'clock, he rang for his valet, and intimated his suspicion that some part of the mansion was on fire; and, on proceeding to the eastern wing, the fact was fully ascertained. Two miniature engines belonging to the hall were attempted to be brought to bear upon it, but could not, owing to the want of the key of a water plug, which communicates with the lake. During this interval the fire had spread along the marble hall, picture gallery, drawing-room, and the chapel on the north side, the ceiling of which, with the walls ornamented with splendid oil paintings, soon became a pitiful sight. The great staircase, with a large quantity of statuary, is all gone. Very many paintings that were at the Great Exhibition in 1853 have been destroyed. The hall was commenced to be built in 1815, and completed in 1839, and in 1837 it was restored at a cost of £20,000 by the present peer. The entire hall, except a very small part, was destroyed by twelve at noon yesterday.

From the Westmoreland Gazette and Kendal Advertiser.

FIRE AT MEAL BANK.—"On Saturday morning last, at half-past five o'clock, when Mr. Hirst, the manager for Messrs. Braithwaite and Co., the extensive woollen manufacturers, opened the door of the mill, he found a strong smell of fire, which he saw came from one of the existing engines. Arriving at the spot, the machine was one mass of red fire; he called two or three men to his assistance, and after closing the doors they went to work with two Extingueurs, and in a few minutes all further danger ceased. The carding-machine was the middle one of a block of seven, and though everything belonging to it, except the iron work, was entirely destroyed, no other damage was done beyond blistering the frame work of an adjoining engine which stood at a distance of two feet six inches. THE DAMAGE IS ESTIMATED AT ABOUT £200." January 26, 1866.

EVERY FIRE BEGINS IN A SMALL SPACE, AND IN ITS EARLIEST STAGES IS EASILY MASTERED. NO LARGE FIRE HAS EVER BEEN EXTINGUISHED; WATER BECOMES BY INTENSE HEAT DISINTEGRATED AND FEEDS THE FLAMES. SUCH FIRES BURN THEMSELVES OUT. ALL THAT SCIENCE CAN DO IS TO PREVENT THEIR EXTENSION.



The Extingueur is always ready for use (having been prepared perhaps months before) on the spot where danger menaces, and at the very instant of discovery of danger, it encounters, arrests, and masters it. Whenever used, as it ought to be, immediately the conflagration has made itself known, the Extingueur is almost invariably infallible. It occupies no more space than one bucket, although each Extingueur, No. 5, contains more than the value of thirty in mere volume, and, as writes the eminent gentleman who formed a jury at Glasgow, "every drop has a deadly effect upon all inflammable matter."

L'EXTINGUEUR IS WARRANTED HARMLESS TO LIFE OR PROPERTY. L'EXTINGUEUR confines the fire to the spot of its outbreak without injuring the most delicate fabric. The few quarts of water the Extingueur projects, being merely the vehicle for conveying the gas, NO TRACE OF THE ACCIDENT REMAINS IN DELUGED ROOM, SPOILED FURNITURE, OR DAMAGED MECHANISM. At any moment of day or night, one man of even less than ordinary strength may snatch up an Extingueur, and with cool confidence, unembarrassed, and without exertion, dispel the alarm and terror such a catastrophe as fire inevitably causes.

All useful discoveries have to live through a time of doubt and of apathy, then of discussion and admiration, and have to wait for actual trial in circumstances of real danger, before the great body of the public bestows a full confidence.

A perusal of excerpts to be obtained from the licensee will show that names most distinguished in Great Britain, France, and Belgium, have examined, have tested, and have adopted L'EXTINGUEUR (a first-class medal was awarded to it last month by a commission of scientific and practical men). The letter from the jury chosen at Glasgow contains names familiar to and appreciated by every commercial man, and this is only one of vast numbers kindly forwarded with permission to publish.

The licensee desires particularly to place before the public the fact that during the last six months the Extingueur has been the means of arresting no less than eleven conflagrations, and of saving vast amounts of property from destruction, and that the municipalities of several important towns have consequently provided their Fire Brigades with them. In conclusion, the licensee begs to state that the unprecedented success in all countries of the Extingueur having been obtained exclusively and entirely by its intrinsic merits, he will always be ready at his own expense to verify by actual experiment every assertion he makes.

PRICE FROM £2 12s. 6d. to £6; RECHARGED AT AN EXPENSE OF FROM 2s. to 6s.

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Carlton Club	Junior Carlton Club	Prince's Pocket, Tennis, and Billiard Club	United Arts Club
Conservative Club (By Appointment)	Mansfield Club	Queen's United Service Club	United University Club
Cavendish Club	Naval and Military Club	Reform Club	Union Club
East India United Service Club	New University Club	Royal Thames Yacht Club	Victoria Club
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The Times Wine Company.

THE TIMES, in a Leading Article on September 8, treated at some length of the heretofore existing difficulty that the Public experienced in obtaining good Wines at reasonable prices. The formation of the TIMES WINE COMPANY has removed that difficulty by supplying the following genuine wines at prices that quality considered, are unprecedented.

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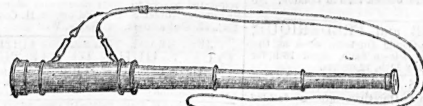
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W. J. VIAN, Secretary.

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